

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



March 17, 1983

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE 1-37-83

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: AFDC-FC PERFORMANCE STANDARDS PILOT PROJECT

The purpose of this letter is to request volunteer counties to participate in a pilot project to test the proposed AFDC-Foster Care Performance Standards System.

State legislation, Chapter 282, Statutes of 1979 (AB 8) directed the State Department of Social Services (SDSS) to develop performance standards for the AFDC-FC program. The department, with the assistance of the counties and the County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), has proposed a system utilizing existing data which measures a set of indicators related to the quality of performance in particular areas of the AFDC-FC program.

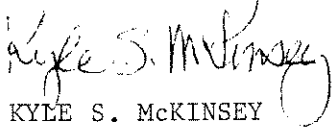
A one year pilot project, beginning July 1, 1983, will be conducted in four to six counties prior to statewide implementation. The pilot will test several aspects of the proposed system, such as the reliability, validity and usefulness of the data; potential problems in data collection; appropriate methods of display, analysis and evaluation; and statewide transferability. The results of the pilot will enable SDSS, in consultation with CWDA, to determine acceptable levels of performance to serve as statewide standards.

Test counties will be chosen to reflect a cross-section of characteristics. Criteria for selection will include:

- 1 - Voluntary participation
- 2 - Size range
- 3 - Urban-rural representation
- 4 - FCIS manual and tape data submission
- 5 - One Family Protection Act county desirable
- 6 - Varied caseload and demographic characteristics

Evaluation of the pilot project will provide the basis for statewide implementation, which is scheduled to occur in January 1985. Counties participating in the pilot will have the opportunity to analyze their Foster Care data collection process for conformity to the proposed statewide system and to initiate any necessary adjustments.

If your county might be interested in participating as a test county for the AFDC-FC Performance Standards Pilot Project please respond by April 4, 1983. Responses, and any questions, may be directed to : Leslie Frye, Foster Care Program Bureau , 744 P Street, MS 7-185, Sacramento, CA 95814. Phone number (916) 445-0813 or ATSS 485-0813.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kyle S. McKinsey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large loop at the end.

KYLE S. McKINSEY
Deputy Director